

Message Text

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71

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-12 SSC-01 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12

PRS-01 SAJ-01 RSR-01 /112 W
----- 056257

R 291654 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8754

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 8824

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH

SUBJECT: PRC AMBASSADOR HUANG CHEN DEPARTS PARIS

1. COMPLETING A STAY OF OVER NINE YEARS, PRC AMBASSADOR HUANG CHEN, CHINA'S MOST SENIOR DIPLOMAT ABROAD, DEPARTS PARIS FOR PEKING MARCH 29. DURING HIS TENURE, PARIS HAS BEEN THE CENTER OF PRC DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES, NOT ONLY FOR EUROPE BUT AS A SITE FOR NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF THIRD COUNTRIES. IN ADDITION, IT HAS OF COURSE BEEN THE PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE U. S. AND THE PRC FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGES AND TRADE MATTERS.

2. REFLECTING BOTH HUANG'S OWN PERSONAL STATURE AND IMPORTANCE GOF ATTACHES TO ITS RELATIONS WITH PEKING, FRENCH HAVE GIVEN UNUSUALLY HIGH LEVEL ATTENTION TO AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE. HE WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT LUNCHEONS HOSTED BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER BETTENCOURT AND BY PRESIDENT POMPIDOU. AT POMPIDOU LUNCHEON MARCH 27 PRESIDENT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT HIS FORTHCOMING TRIP TO PEKING THIS FALL " WILL MARK A NEW STEP IN THE PROGRESS OF OUR RELATIONS," AND NOTED GOF INTEREST AS WELL AS HIS
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OWN PERSONAL INTEREST IN EXTENSION AND DEEPENING OF
UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN PRC AND GOF. POMPIDOU CHARACTERIZED
HUANG AS " AN INCOMPARABLE ARTISAN OF SINO- FRENCH FRIENDSHIP."

3. EVENING OF MARCH 27 HUANG HOSTED LARGE RECEPTION AT
PRC EMBASSY. GOF REPRESENTED BY ACTING FONMIN BETTENCOURT,
ALAIN PEYREFITTE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF UDR, AND GEOFFROY
DE COURCEL, SECRETARY GENERAL OF QUAI D' ORSAY. AMBASSADOR
IRWIN AND MESSRS. KUBISCH, HOLMES AND ANDERSON ATTENDED. SOVIET
AMBASSADOR WAS NOT SEEN AND WE RECOGNIZED ONLY ONE OF HIS
SENIOR STAFF AT RECEPTION.
IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973PARIS08824
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730341/aaaailnj.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <23-Aug-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980107
Subject: PRC AMBASSADOR HUANG CHEN DEPARTS PARIS
TAGS: PFOR, CH
To: EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO HONG KONG
MOSCOW
TAIPEI
TOKYO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

